composition than it is mine. He knows nothing of natural history, &c., and is no more than a mere *tireur d'oiseaux.* He had made no notes, but dictated what he could remember or invent to one Varon, a *faiseur* here, who cooked up a book for him. When he ran away to Holland, M. Tersinck employed him by sending him to the Cape to collect birds for him.

The French Ministry have Lord Malmesbury's letters and notes translated and published regularly in the public journals. In his correspondence with La Croix,[1] the latter does not appear to advantage, for his notes are peevish and childish. If they do no better I shall begin to think men may overturn a government and conquer countries without being capable of acting wisely in quiet times and conducting business with their equals.

November i

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I was last night at the Theatre de la Rue Feydeau, where the Comedie Frangaise is now

i J. P. de la Croix, born in 1754, and originally bred to the bar. He was a man of undoubted abilities. Having embraced the popular cause, he rose from place to place to that of minister for foreign affairs. He was one of those most hostile to the royal family, voted the King's death, and in his turn was guillotined with Danton on the 8th April, 1794.